

Board of Supervisors

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Vice-Chairman
District 3

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Supervisor
District 1



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County Administrator

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Deputy County Administrator

Arlethe G. Rios
Clerk

April 22, 2014

The Honorable Janice K. Brewer
Arizona Governor
Executive Tower
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Brewer,

We are writing to ask that you veto Senate Bill 1483.

Lowering the current legislative population cap requiring the Board of Supervisors to move from a three-member board to a five-member board creates increased costs to the challenged budget of our rural county. It is unnecessary and widely opposed by residents. Additionally, an amendment from the House allows for the creation of the only board of supervisors in the state with staggered terms through 2020 and creates the opportunity to have five supervisors representing three districts.

Since the introduction of this legislation a few months ago, it has evolved from a poorly thought-out effort to a messy and desperate attempt to salvage an agenda that is unclear, unsupported and unwanted by the people of this county.

This anxious rush to force open a legislative door allowing two more elected positions within a narrow time frame lacks practical rationale. "Some people have asked for it" is Senator Griffin's and Representative Steven's reasoning as to their sponsorship. The following are those who have not asked for it and don't want it:

- The City of Sierra Vista Council
- The Douglas City Council
- The Bisbee City Council.
- The Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce
- The Cochise Graham Cattle Growers
- The Cochise County Farm Bureau
- The Cochise County Board of Supervisors

We have yet to meet any constituent, regardless of party affiliation, who favors more government and more elected official positions. And, yet, this 'designer' legislation, which currently only applies to Cochise County, has moved its unexplained agenda forward.

The residents of this county have the ability to determine for themselves if they want more elected officials and in 1990 they did so. The requisite number of signatures were obtained to put the question on the ballot. 80% of the voters said no. Sentiments have not changed.

This legislation is a blatantly transparent effort to force the wishes of a very small and very special interest group on this county and end-around the wishes and best interests of its residents.

On behalf of the residents of Cochise County, please reject this effort.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann English
Chairman

Richard R. Searle
Vice-Chairman

Patrick G. Call
Member